



X-MEN GOLD™

MARVEL

007

**GUGGENHEIM
LASHLEY
MARTIN**



X-MEN

GOLD

GENETICALLY GIFTED WITH UNCANNY ABILITIES, MUTANTS ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE NEXT STAGE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION. WHILE THE WORLD HATES AND FEARS THEM, KITTY PRYDE HAS REFORMED THE TEAM OF MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN TO USE THEIR POWERS FOR GOOD AND SPREAD A POSITIVE IMAGE OF MUTANTKIND.

PREVIOUSLY IN *X-MEN GOLD*...

WHEN A NANITE SWARM FUSED WITH SENTINEL A.I. RAMPAGED THROUGH MANHATTAN, THE X-MEN WERE ABLE TO DEFEAT IT AT A COST: COLOSSUS WAS GRAVELY INJURED AND PRESTIGE PUSHED HER TELEPATHIC ABILITIES BEYOND HER KNOWN LIMITS.

MEANWHILE, A COSMIC CUBE TRANSFORMED CAPTAIN AMERICA INTO THE ULTIMATE HYDRA SLEEPER AGENT AND AFTER MONTHS OF CAREFUL PLANNING, HE'S FINALLY READY TO MAKE HIS MOVE...

SECRET EMPIRE

PART 1

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KITTY PRYDE



STORM
ORORO MUNROE



NIGHTCRAWLER
KURT WAGNER



COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN

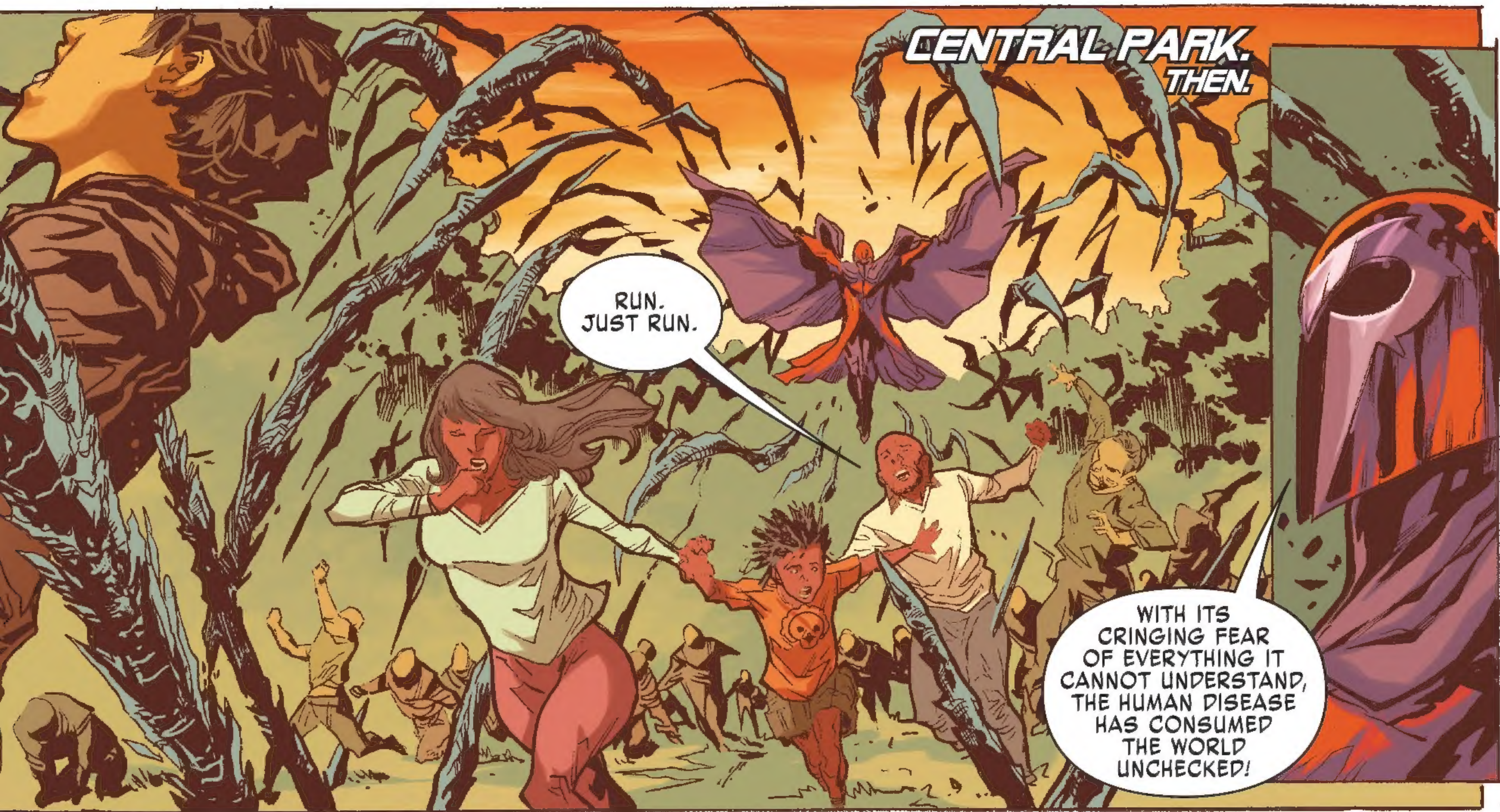


PRESTIGE
RACHEL GREY



OLD MAN LOGAN

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HOW
ARE YOU
FEELING?

LIKE ORORO
SHOULDN'T
HAVE SHIFTED
HER INFIELD.

YOU KNOW
WHAT I MEAN,
PETER.



DR. REYES
SAYS THE WOUNDS
THE NANOTECH
SWARM INFLICTED
WILL HEAL IN
TIME.

SHE SAYS
MY MUTANT GENOME
HAS NOT BEEN ALTERED,
THAT I'M STILL IN
POSSESSION OF
MY POWERS.

AND YET,
KATYA...



...I CANNOT
TURN TO STEEL
ANYMORE.

I'M SURE
IT'S TEMPORARY.
LIKE WHEN YOU
COULDN'T REVERT
FROM YOUR
ARMORED FORM.
REMEMBER?

DA. I
REMEMBER.



THAT
IS WHAT
CONCERNS--

OH MY
GOD...





"...WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?"



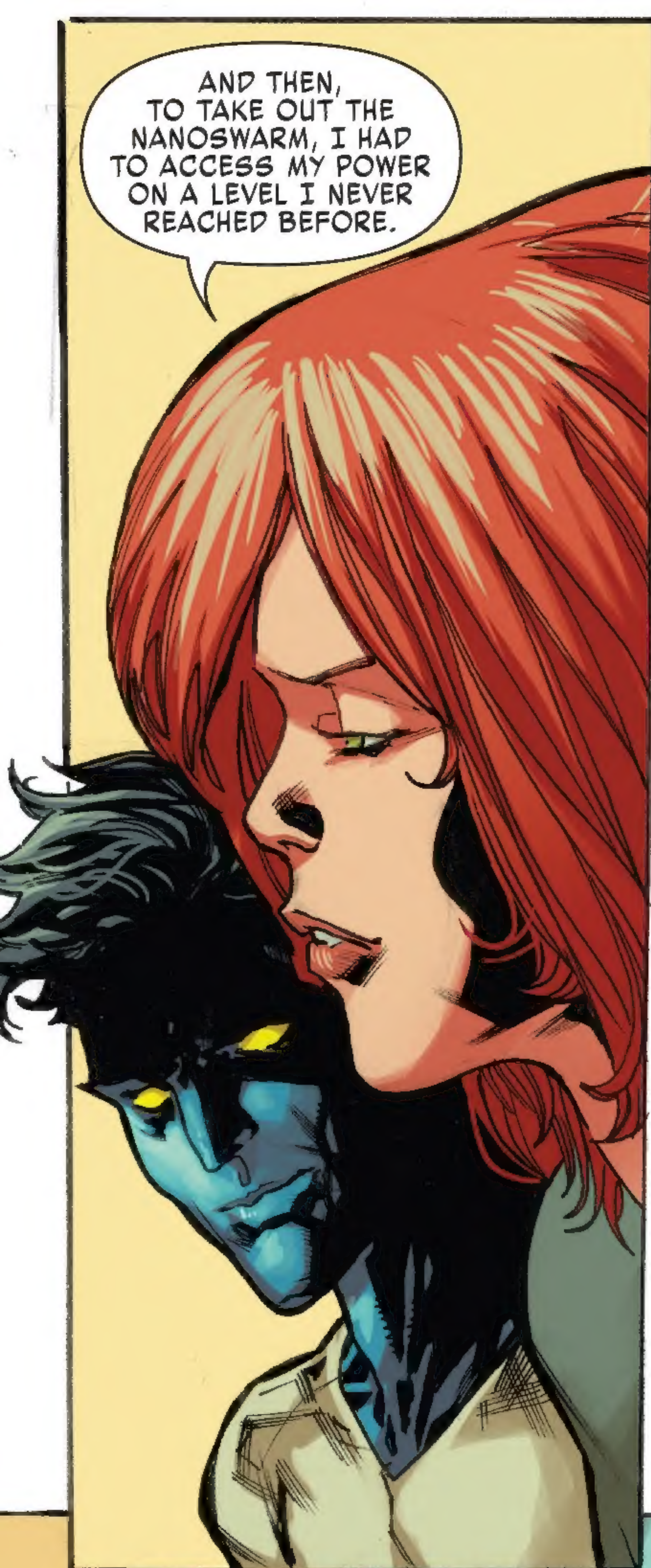
UM...
RACHEL...



THAT WAS A BIT FORWARD, WASN'T IT?
NO. WELL, YES. WELL, MORE LIKE... UNEXPECTED.



I'M SORRY, KURT. IT'S JUST--WHEN I WAS UNCONSCIOUS, IN THE INFIRMARY...
I COULD...FEEL YOUR CONCERN. PSYCHICALLY.
AND IT WASN'T PLATONIC CONCERN FOR A FRIEND OR TEAMMATE.



AND THEN,
TO TAKE OUT THE
NANOSWARM, I HAD
TO ACCESS MY POWER
ON A LEVEL I NEVER
REACHED BEFORE.



BECAUSE I'D
BEEN AFRAID
TO.



AND IN
THAT MOMENT,
I BECAME...I
DON'T KNOW
HOW TO PUT
IT...

...BECAME
PSYCHICALLY
ATTUNED TO
EVERYONE IN
MANHATTAN.



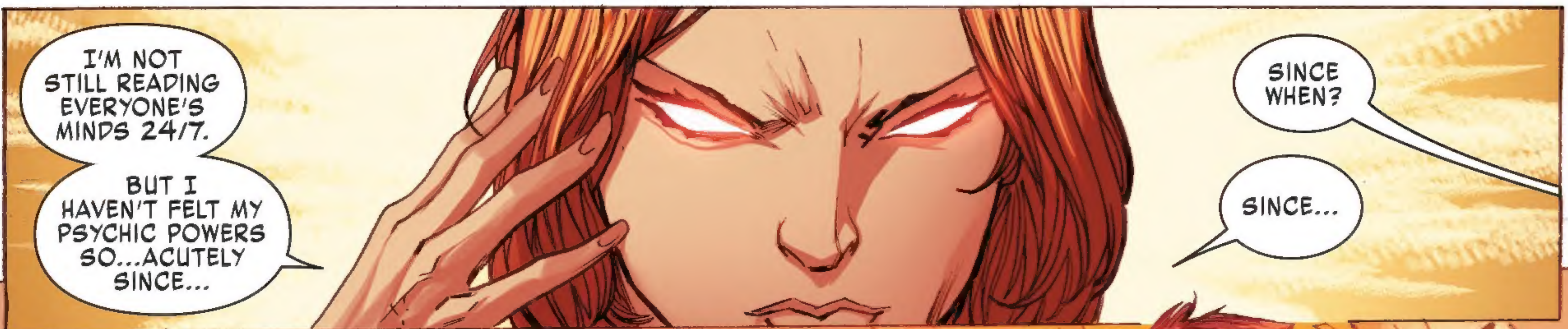
AND I
KNOW YOU'RE
ATTRACTED
TO ME.



AND ARE
YOU...STILL
"ATTUNED"?

ARE YOU
CHANGING THE
SUBJECT?

JA. IS IT
WORKING?





ORORO,
GET EVERYONE
INTO THE
MANSION.

WE'RE ON
LOCKDOWN UNTIL WE
KNOW WHAT THE HELL
IT IS WE'RE DEALING
WITH HERE...



"...I WANT SENIOR
STAFF IN THE BRIEFING
ROOM IN FIVE MINUTES."

IT'S CALLED
THE DARKFORCE
DIMENSION.

A PLANE OF
REALITY WRAPPED
IN DARKNESS AND
POPULATED BY
DEMONS.

SWELL.



THERE'S
NO LEAVING
MANHATTAN. EVEN
TELEPORTATION HAS
BEEN AFFECTED,
FOR SOME
REASON.



I'M AFRAID
I MUST BE GOING.
THERE ARE SEVERAL
PRESSING MATTERS
REQUIRING MY
ATTENTION.

THANK YOU,
DOCTOR STRANGE.
WE'LL MOBILIZE HERE
ON OUR END.



PUT SMALL TEAMS
TOGETHER AND HIT
THE STREETS.

IF THERE'S
ANYTHING THAT
CAN GET NEW
YORKERS TO PANIC
(AND I'M NOT SURE
THERE IS), IT'LL BE
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS.

HELP OUT
HOWEVER
YOU CAN.

ALL
RIGHT...



"...LET'S MAKE A PASS THROUGH THE MANSION, CALM PEOPLE DOWN."

THERE'S A LOT OF ANXIETY. PARTICULARLY FROM THE YOUNGER STUDENTS...

DON'T EXACTLY NEED TO BE A PSYCHIC TO KNOW THAT, RACHE...

PROFESSOR K...



IT'S-- IT'S--

WHAT, ANOLE?

IT'S THE NEW GIRL...



"...SHE'S DEAD."



HER NAME WAS BELEN. JEAN BROUGHT HER HERE...

ANOLE, HAS ANYONE ELSE SEEN THIS?

I DON'T THINK SO. I JUST CAME DOWN TO DO A LOAD OF LAUNDRY AND...FOUND HER.

I NEED YOU TO KEEP THIS QUIET...UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH.

WHAT ARE WE DEALING WITH?

ORORO AND LOGAN HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATING A SERIES OF MUTANT KILLINGS.

THE "X" IS NEW, BUT THE GUNSHOT IS CONSISTENT WITH THIS PERSON'S M.O.

BOZHE MOY...

THAT PRETTY MUCH COVERS IT, YEAH.

BUT DOESN'T COVER WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO.

"WE'VE GOT AN ANTI-MUTANT *SERIAL KILLER* LOOSE IN A HOME FOR MUTANTS."



HEARD FROM KURT. HE JUST BROKE UP SOME LOOTERS ON THE UPPER WEST SIDE.

IT'S SAD THAT PEOPLE DON'T RISE TO FACE A CRISIS.



SOME DO. THINGS LIKE WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY JUST REVEAL PEOPLE'S TRUE NATURES.

NOBODY KNOWS THAT BETTER THAN YOU AND ME, DARLIN'.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

JUST THAT WE'VE BEEN AROUND...



"...WE'VE SEEN A FEW THINGS."

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MY FRIEND?



I USED TO BE THE WOLVERINE, DARLIN'. I'M NEVER NOT "ALL RIGHT."

BUT I'M TIRED.



I LOOK AT KITTY, DOIN' SO WELL RUNNING THIS OUTFIT, AND I WONDER...

...MAYBE I DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS FOR MUCH LONGER.

YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE, MY FRIEND.

NOW YOU'RE JUST BUTTERIN' ME UP...

WAIT.

THE X-MEN WOULDN'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU.



I SMELL SOMETHING.



SWIFT

DEMON.

SWIFT



HELP. SOMEONE PLEASE...

YUP. ON IT.

OH, DEAR...



CLASH



LADY,
YOU MIGHT
WANNA--

OH,
DEAR...

--GET
OUTTA HERE,
YEAH.

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT, MY
FRIEND?

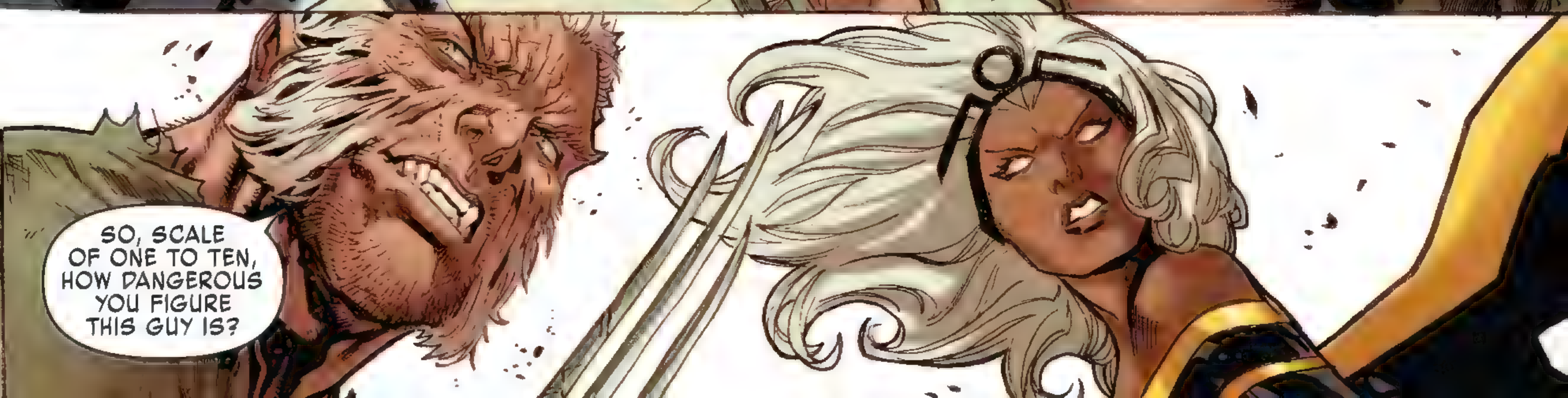
FINE. BEEN
A WHILE SINCE
I GUTTED A
DEMON. FEELS
GOOD. I--

ЭТОТ ЧЕЛОВЕК
ОЧЕНЬ СЛАБЫЙ И
ОЧЕНЬ НЕУДАЧЛИВЫЙ
ЧЕЛОВЕК...



ЭТОТ
ЧЕЛОВЕК
ОЧЕНЬ СЛАБЫЙ
И ОЧЕНЬ НЕУДАЧЛИВЫЙ
ЧЕЛОВЕК.

А ТЕПЕРЬ
ОН! КТО-ТО СКАЗЫВАЕТ
ОЧЕНЬ КРАСИВО
ИЛИ НЕ СКАЗЫВАЕТ.



SO, SCALE
OF ONE TO TEN,
HOW DANGEROUS
YOU FIGURE
THIS GUY IS?



I JUST
HAPPA
ASK...

LOGAN!

ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

HURTS
LIKE YOU
WON'T BELIEVE.
GONNA NEED
A MINUTE
HERE.

HEY!
KNOCK IT...

...X OXOXE
13X23X123E
0 11053X13310
0X2E0X133E.

"KILL THE
DEMON..."



...KILL IT NOW!

GET OUTTA NEW YORK!

THIS IS OUR TOWN!

DON'T LET IT GET AWAY!

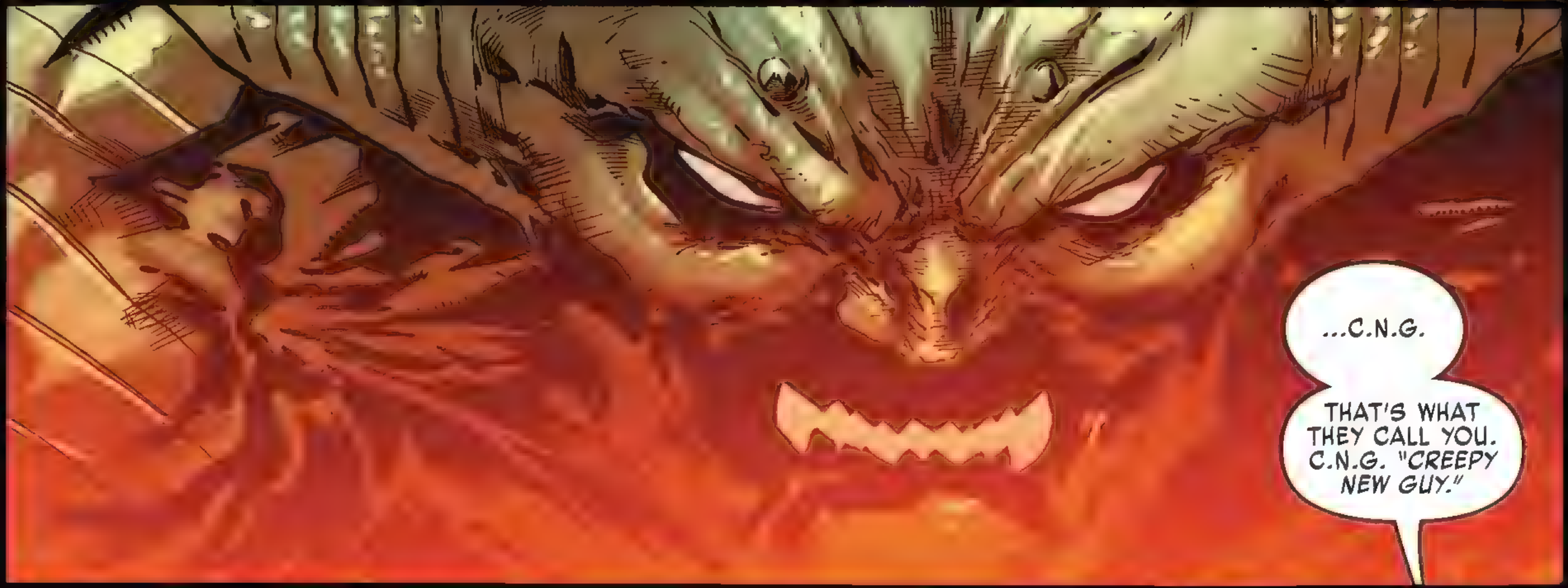
YOU IDIOTS! I'M ONE OF YOU!

PLEASE! I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU!

YOU SURE DON'T LOOK LIKE US, PAL.

DIE, HELLSPAWN!

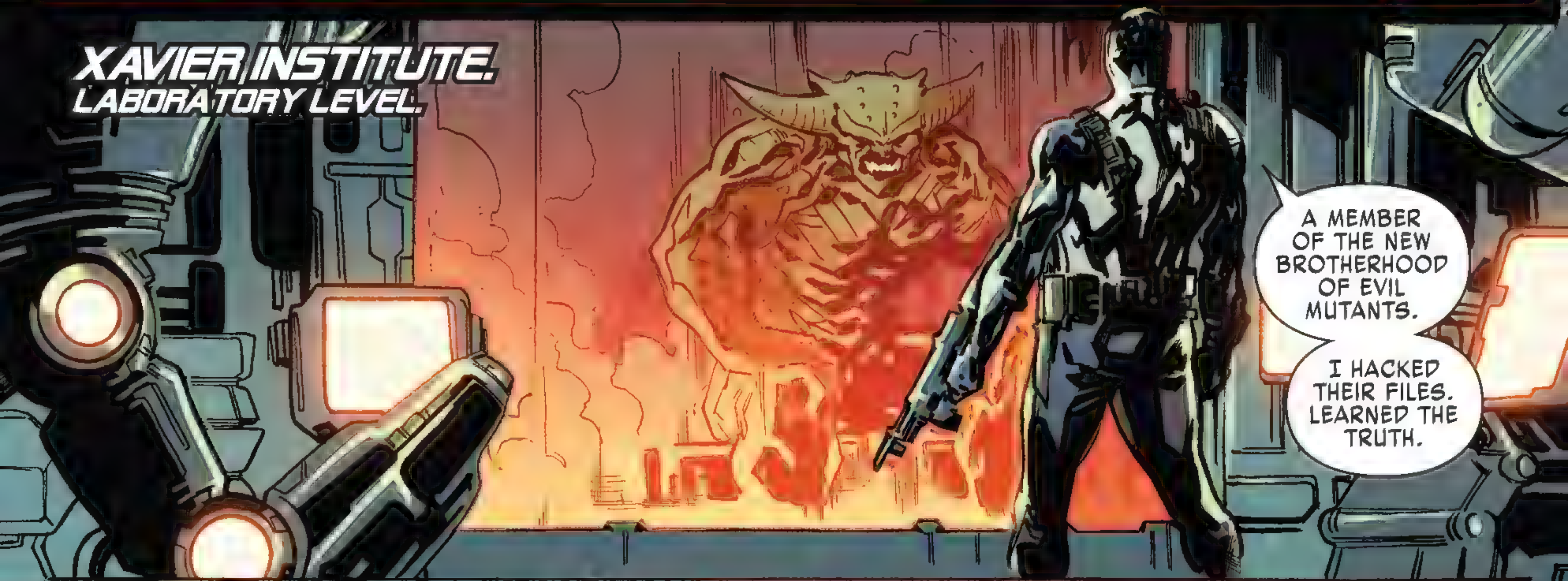
"WELL, YOU SEEM TO BE IN QUITE THE SPOT. DON'T YOU..."



...C.N.G.

THAT'S WHAT
THEY CALL YOU.
C.N.G. "CREEPY
NEW GUY."

XAVIER INSTITUTE
LABORATORY LEVEL



A MEMBER
OF THE NEW
BROTHERHOOD
OF EVIL
MUTANTS.

I HACKED
THEIR FILES.
LEARNED THE
TRUTH.



YOU'RE
NOT A
MUTANT.

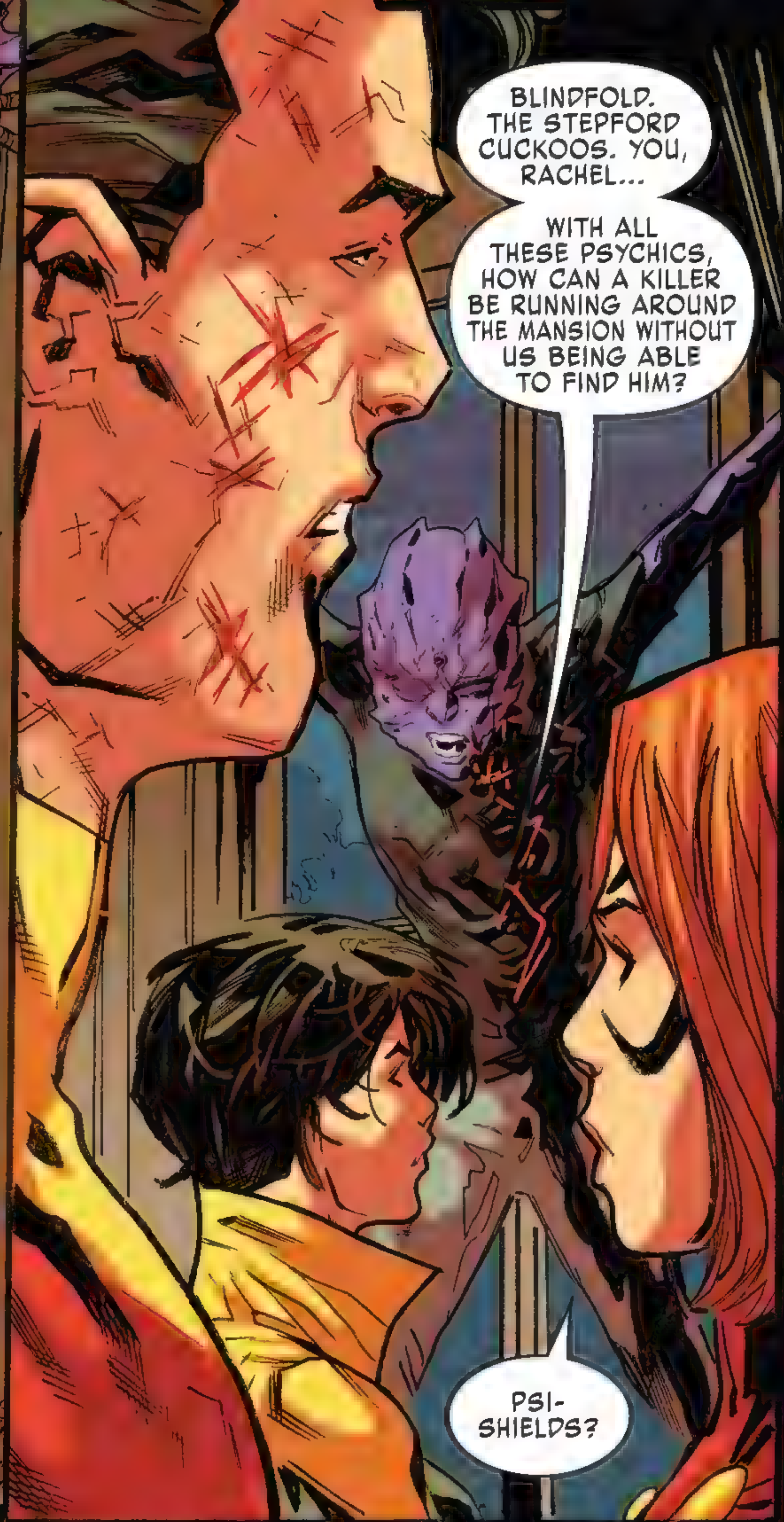
YOU DON'T
EVEN UNDERSTAND
A WORD I'M SAYING,
DO YOU?



509 M1 01 X
509 M1 11 1 2 2 6
13 0 K 13 1 1 1



OSCAR...



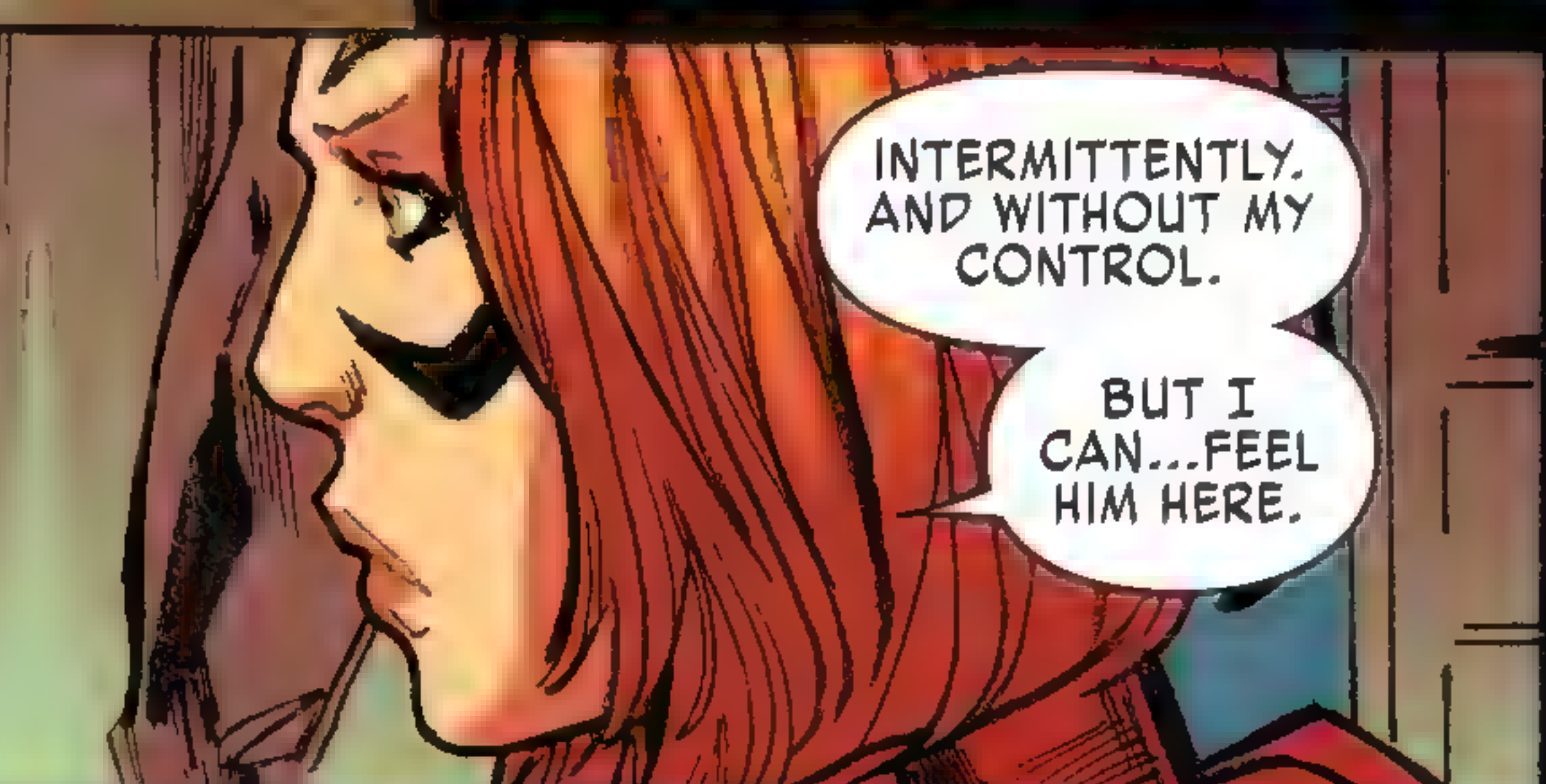
BLINDFOLD.
THE STEPPORD
CUCKOOS. YOU,
RACHEL...

WITH ALL
THESE PSYCHICS,
HOW CAN A KILLER
BE RUNNING AROUND
THE MANSION WITHOUT
US BEING ABLE
TO FIND HIM?

PSI-
SHIELDS?



I THOUGHT
YOUR POWERS
HAD FOUND A
NEW GEAR...



INTERMITTENTLY.
AND WITHOUT MY
CONTROL.

BUT I
CAN...FEEL
HIM HERE.

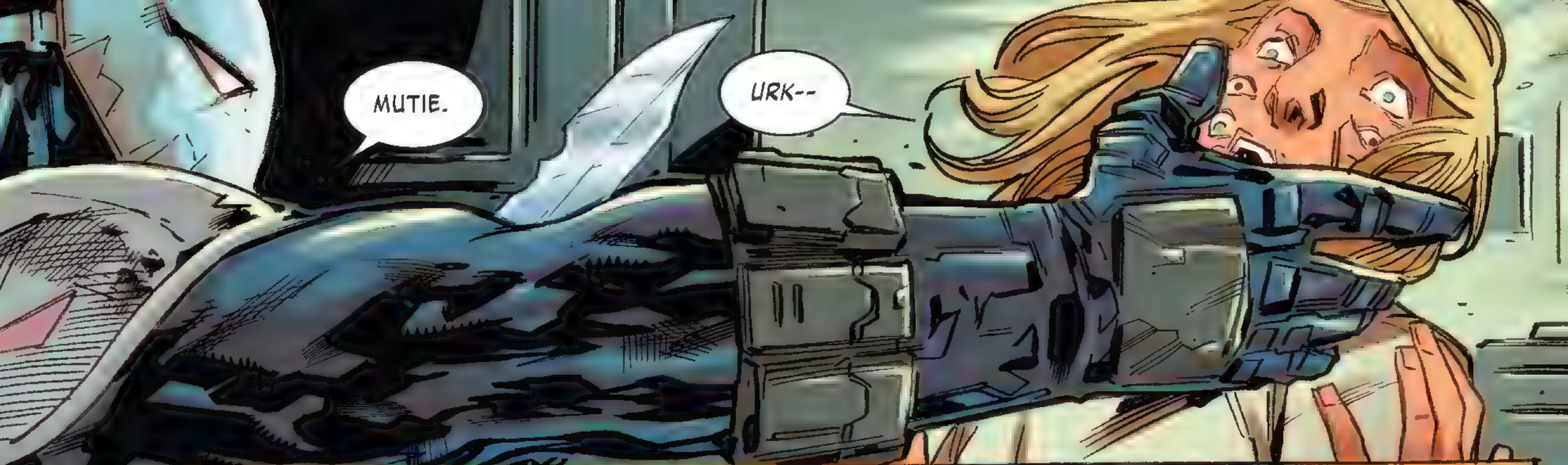


FEEL
WHAT?

RAGE...

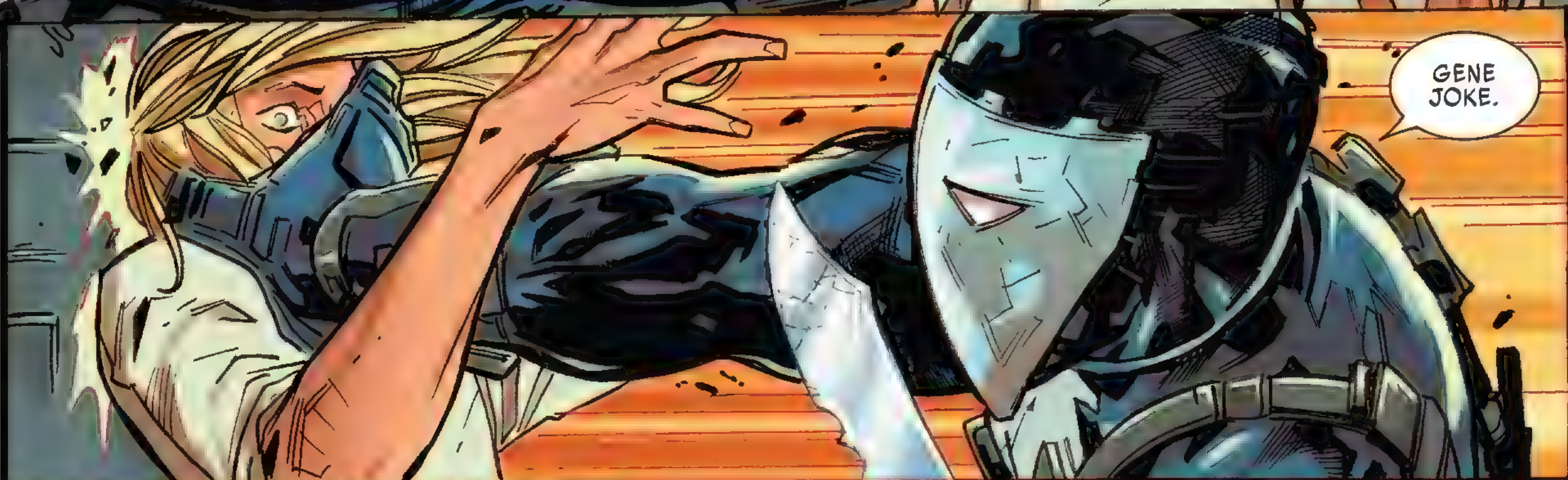


"...PURE RAGE."

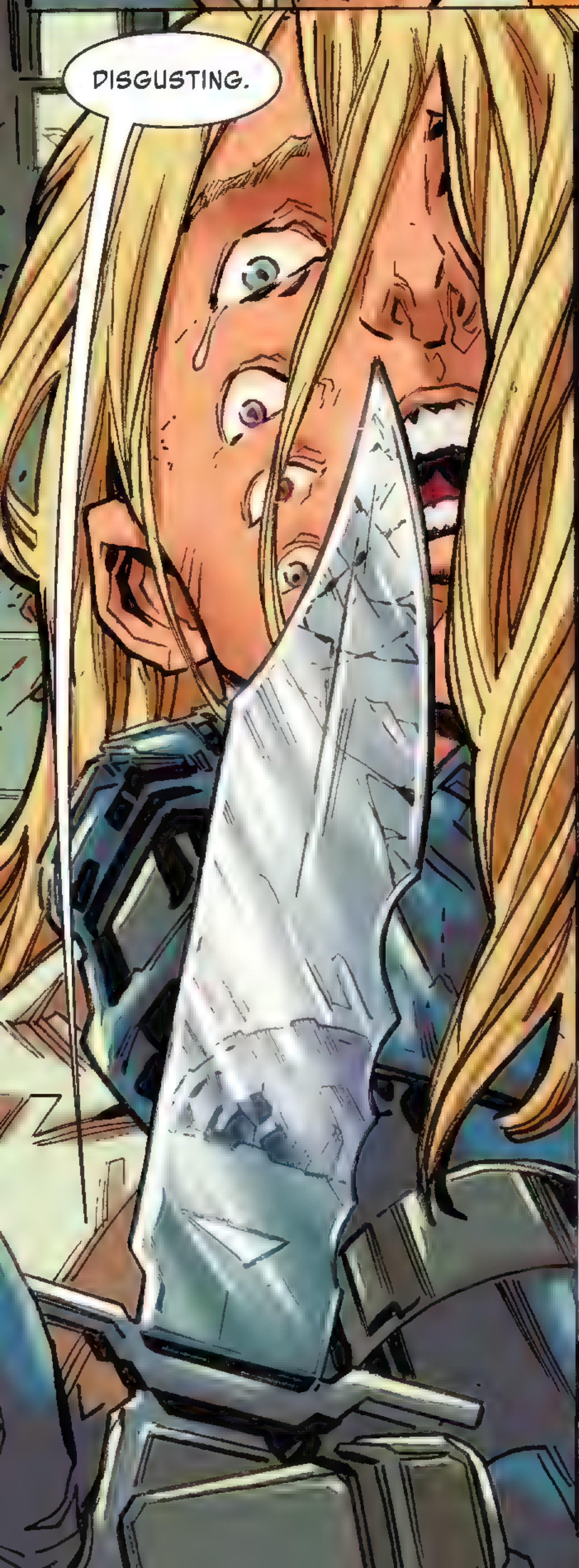


MUTIE.

URK--



GENE
JOKE.



DISGUSTING.



BECAUSE
OF YOUR
KIND, MY BOY
IS DEAD.


WASN'T
EVEN TEN
YEARS OLD.

NEVER
HAD A
CHANCE.



DON'T
DON'T DON'T...
AH...AH...

AAAAAAAAAAAA!




HOW YOU
HOLDING UP,
SOORAYA?

AS WELL
AS CIRCUMSTANCES
PERMIT, SANTO.

CIRCUMSTANCES
ARE THERE'S A
SERIAL KILLER RUNNING
AROUND THE
MANSION.

YES...



...I NEVER
SAID I WAS
DOING WELL.



OMG.
IS THAT--?

THESE...



...LOOK
LIKE HIGH-
YIELD CLUSTER
BOMBS.



ATTACHED
TO A TAMPER-
PROOF TIMER.
TWENTY-NINE
MINUTES LEFT.



PLEASE...
PLEASE DON'T
HURT ME...

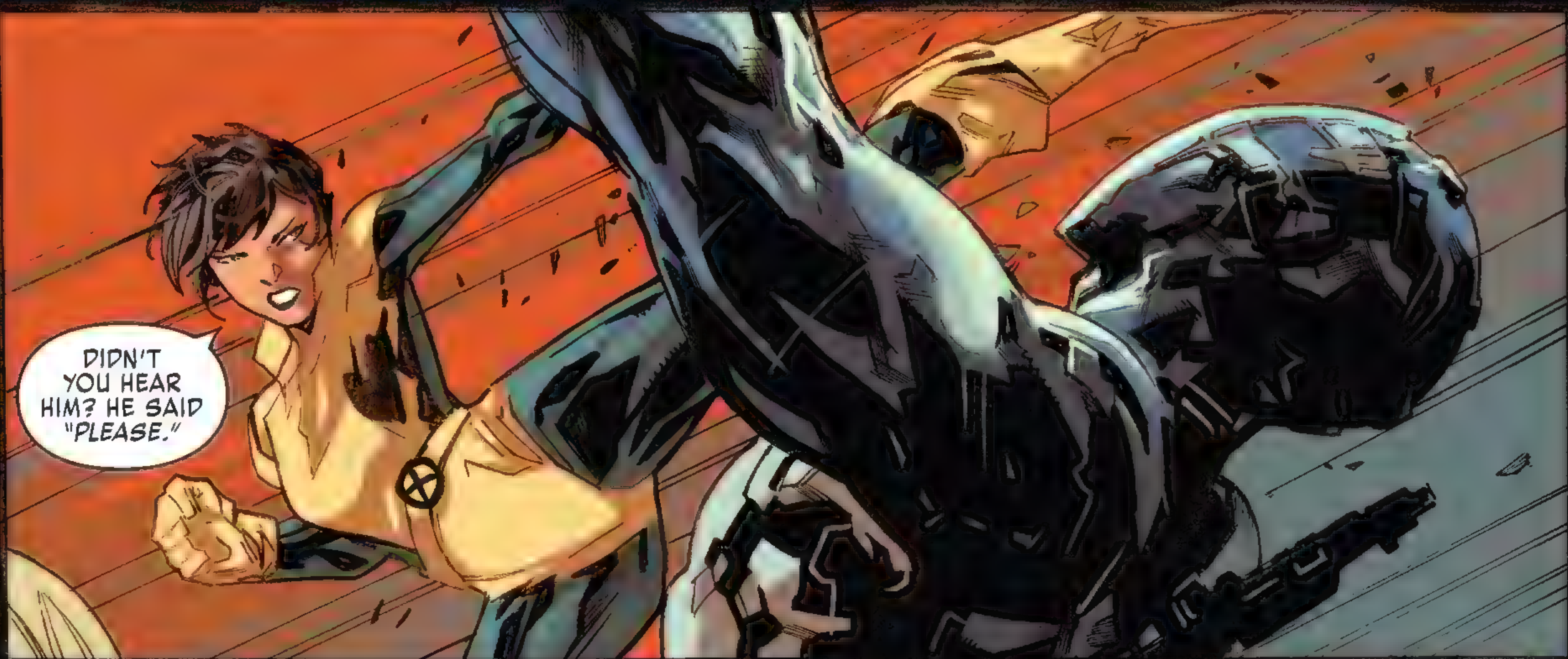
THAT'S
WHAT MY BOY
SAID...



OR WHAT
HE WOULD'VE
SAID.

WASN'T
EVEN GIVEN
THE CHANCE.

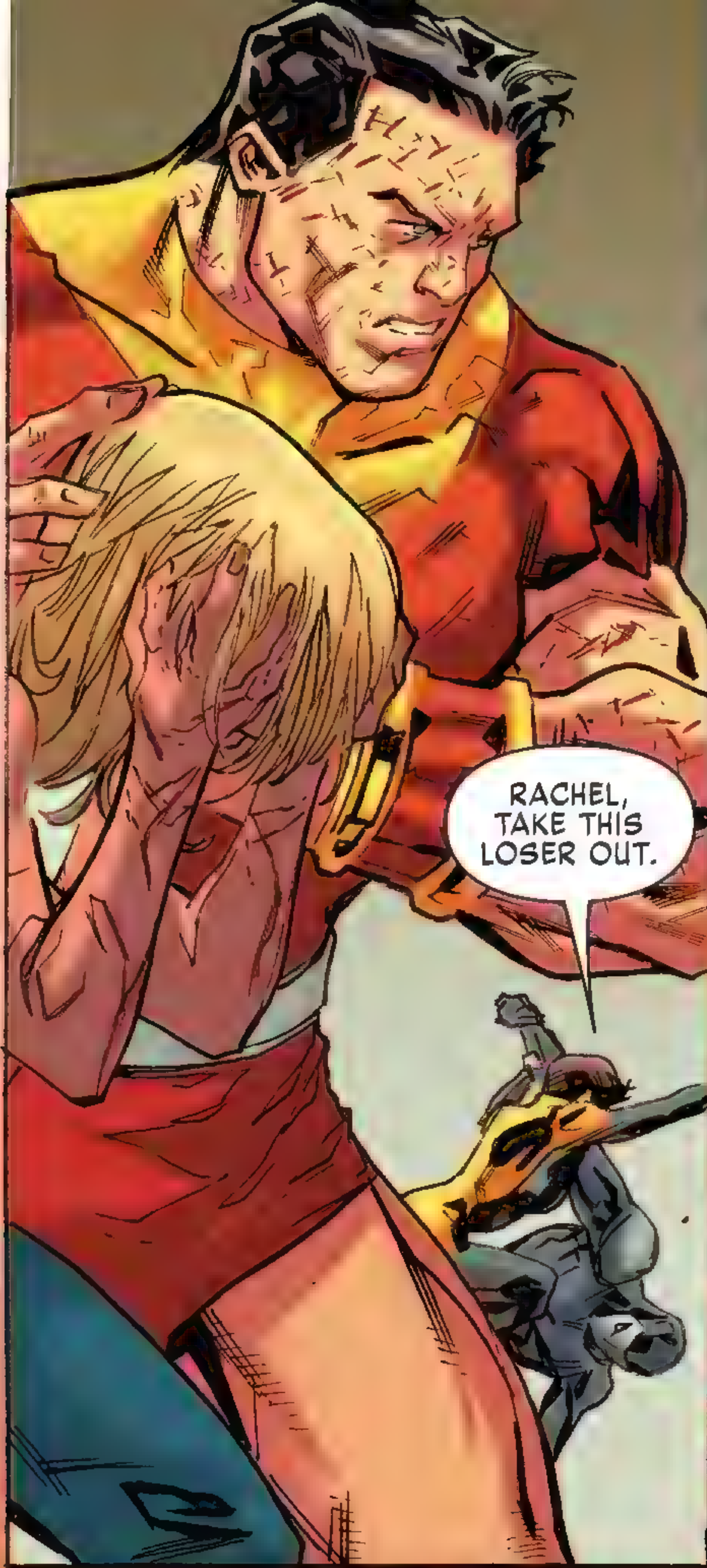
PLEASE...



DIDN'T
YOU HEAR
HIM? HE SAID
"PLEASE."



PETER,
GET TREVOR
TO SAFETY.



RACHEL,
TAKE THIS
LOSER OUT.



CAN'T. HIS
FACE MASK'S
PROTECTING
HIM.



WORKING
ON IT.



COULD USE
A LITTLE HELP,
THOUGH.



THOK

THANKS.



OTOYDI
OT NIKH!

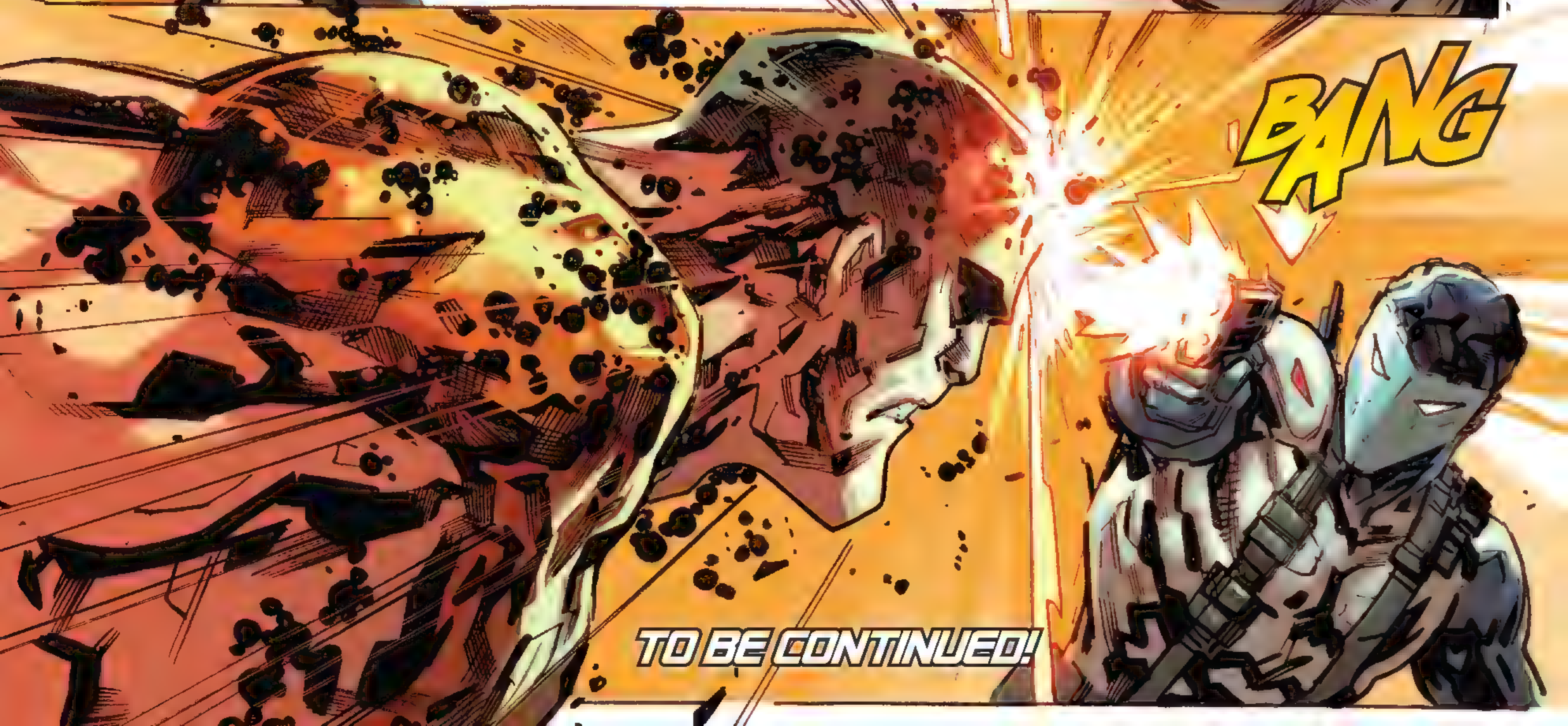


I TOLD
YOU TO GET
TREVOR TO
SAFETY.

AND SO
I DID, AND
SO I AM
BACK.



NOT FOR
LONG.



BANG

TO BE CONTINUED!

HOUSE OF X

Wolverines. You can't get rid of 'em, can you? Kill one and two more pop up, lol. A son. A daughter. A clone. An alternate future version. But dang! They're all cool and we can't get enough of them. What is it about this quintessential mutant that makes any X-Men fan's life incomplete without one? Aside from the great visuals (you know, the claws, that wild hair), Wolverine represents the ultimate maverick. One part Clint Eastwood, one part Steve McQueen, a little Bruce Lee mixed in. He's that part of us that doesn't want trouble, but when it comes looking, knows how to send it home in a cast. He's that part of us that can handle anything and anyone at any time. While we like to relate to our heroes, sometimes we want a little wish fulfillment, too. We all take a not-so-guilty pleasure seeing a bad guy get his/her due.

It's been almost three years since Wolverine died but fans are still enjoying the character's qualities in two distinct ongoing series. In **ALL-NEW WOLVERINE**, we've got the ever-popular Laura Kinney taking over the mantle of Logan, kicking @\$\$ and taking names with her trusty and often humorous sidekick/younger clone, Gabby (who is about to get a codename), written by Tom Taylor and illustrated by Leonard Kirk. Right now we're in the middle of **IMMUNE**, a mystery that will take Laura to a far corner of the galaxy.

In **OLD MAN LOGAN**, we've got a haunted Wolverine from a tragic, alternate future in the present-day Marvel U. Here he's got a second chance to embrace life, be a hero and protect the people he cares about most. Jeff Lemire (along with artist Eric Nguyen) has wrapped up his epic 24-issue run with **PAST LIVES**, and this month we'll see the new creative team of Ed Brisson and Mike Deodato Jr. debut with the fight of the century between Logan and the Maestro in **DAYS OF ANGER**.

If you're a Wolverine fan and haven't had a chance to try these books, there's no better time than now. Speaking of books that may or may not have Wolverines in them, here's our handy checklist of X-Men series:

X-MEN GOLD:

By Marc Guggenheim and R.B. Silva. Kitty Pryde takes charge and leads a new team into a heroic age!
Issue #8!

X-MEN BLUE:

By Cullen Bunn and Cory Smith. The time-displaced original five join their greatest enemy, Magneto. Evil mutants, you're toast!
Issue #7!

WEAPON X:

By Greg Pak and Greg Land. The Weapon X program is back, but this time they are building weapons of mutant destruction. Old Man Logan, Sabretooth and a team of stealthy killers take the bloody battle back to them.
Issue #4 on sale now!

ALL-NEW WOLVERINE:

By Tom Taylor and Leonard Kirk. A virus from another world threatens to wipe out mankind. Kicking off an epic tale that will take Laura Kinney to the stars.
Issue #22 on sale now!

GENERATION X:

By Christina Strain and Amilcar Pinna. Jubilee and a band of mutant misfits in the new Xavier Institute. What could go wrong? EVERYTHING!
Issue #4 on sale now!

JEAN GREY:

By Dennis Hopeless and Victor Ibáñez. She's the leader of X-MEN BLUE, but what does she do in her spare time? What would you do if you had a premonition of the Phoenix Force returning?
Issue #3 on sale now!

CABLE:

By James Robinson and Carlos Pacheco. A new villain is traveling through time to assemble a doomsday weapon. Cable's most dangerous mission ever!
Issue #2 on sale now!

ICEMAN:

By Sina Grace and Alessandro Vitti. The coolest hero on the planet, Bobby Drake the elder, in super-hero solo adventures.
Issue #3!

OLD MAN LOGAN:

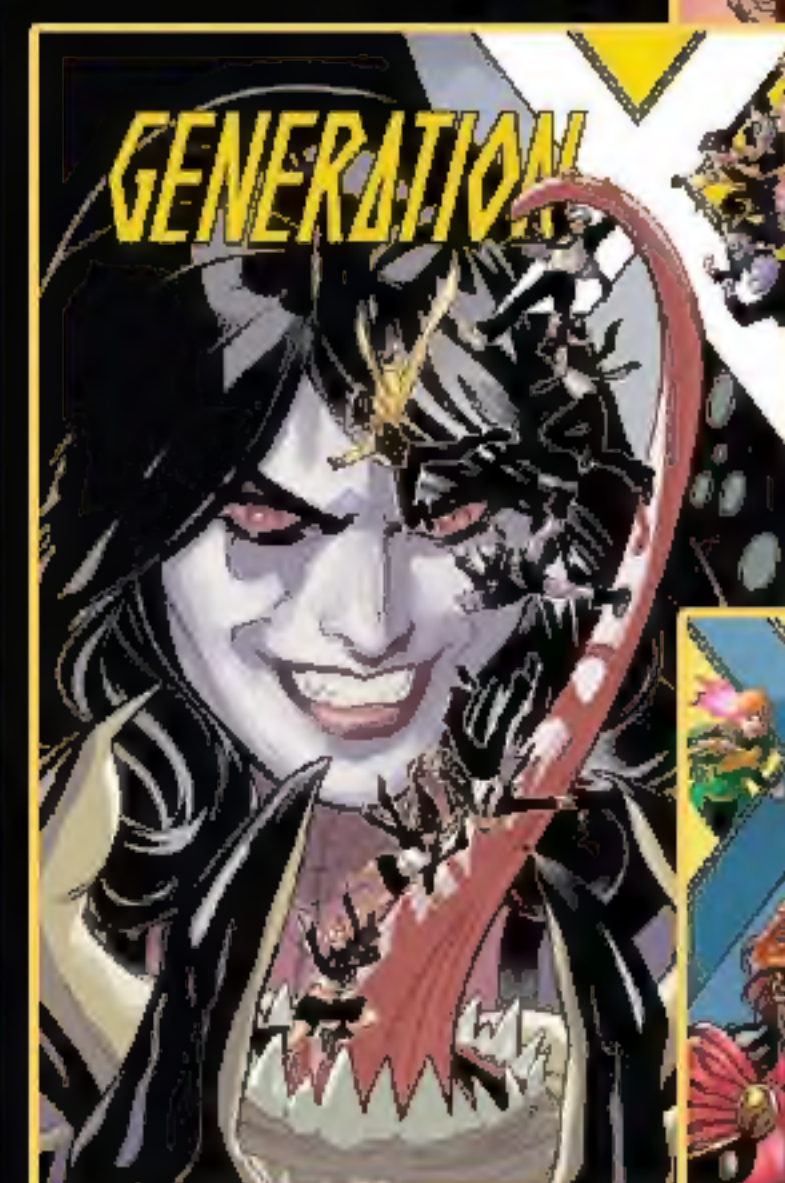
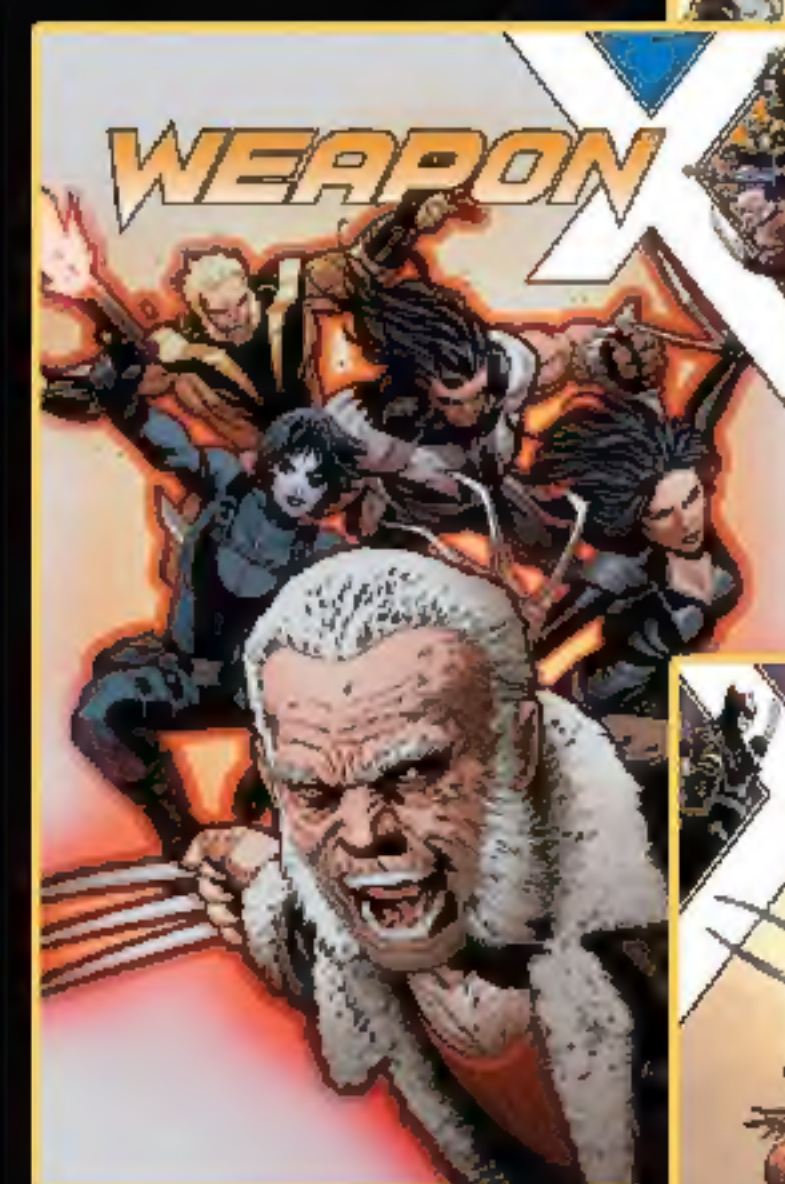
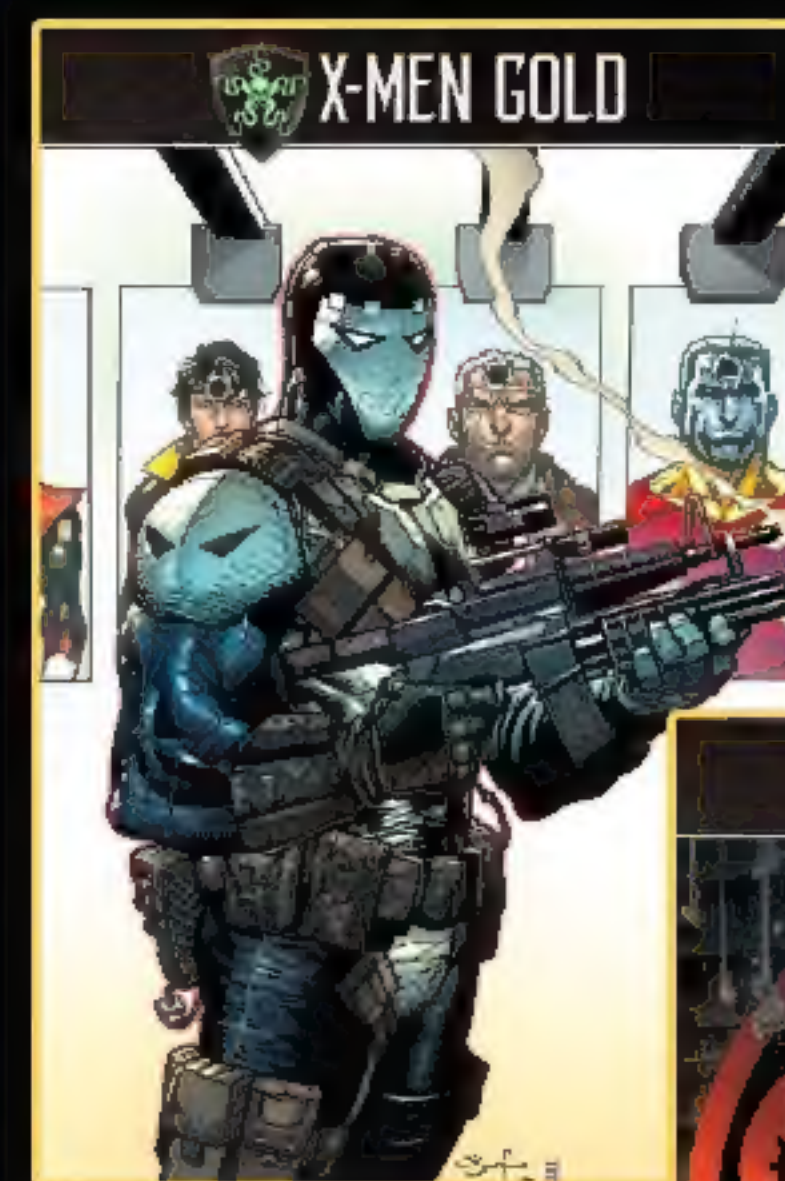
By Ed Brisson and Mike Deodato Jr. The Maestro! Old Man Logan! Deodato! 'Nuff said!
First chapter (issue #25) on sale now!

ASTONISHING X-MEN:

By Charles Soule and a murderers' row of chart-topping and up-and-coming artists. Fan-favorite characters battle one of the X-Men's most dangerous foes!
Debuts this July!

Make sure to let us know your thoughts. You can email us at officex@marvel.com (add "OKAY TO PRINT" in the subject line). And don't forget about #XMENMONDAY on Twitter, where I'll post some tidbit from one or more of the books and address your questions. I can't guarantee an answer for everybody, but I'll do my darndest!

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X-MEN

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THE GOLD STANDARD

As a 35-year reader of all things X-Men, I've never been driven to write in, but with this return-to-basics approach, I have to express my hope and joy for the new line of books. X-MEN GOLD #1 was a joy to read with Kitty taking her long overdue turn as leader. The classic lineup including Piotr and Kurt just feels right as does the murderer's row of talent (Syaf! Silva! Lashley!!!) that will rotate on art duty for the book. We are off to a promising start and I look forward to seeing where Marc Guggenheim takes us.

Joey Oakes
Gallatin, TN

Thank you! By now you've no doubt learned that Mr. Syaf's last issue was #3, but Messrs. Silva and Lashley are still with us and kicking ass. And for issues #10 and #11, we'll be joined by the incomparable Lan Medina, who's bringing along a certain Ms. Rasputin...

Dearest X-Men story builders,

I just bought the first issue of X-MEN GOLD and after reading the story and the Editorial letter at the end (with the History of the X-Men synopsis to boot), I HAVE to tell you that I am super EXCITED that the X-Men are here to stay. I was really worried there for a second that Marvel was going to get rid of their X-Men characters because of stupid trademark film rights to conflicting film studios and what not. And replacing these beloved characters with the Inhumans? Ridiculously blasphemous!

I grew up with these X-Men! I started collecting these comics when I was 11 in 1981 with Chris Claremont and Dave Cockrum and the Brood storyline. When the New Mutants came along I was completely addicted. These were my people. Dani Moonstar and Rahne Sinclair were my all-time fave characters! These outcast heroes empowered me when I came out as a gay teenager in high school. As life happened, I stopped collecting comics in the early '90s when I moved out of my family home to start my "adult" life in San Francisco. As the decades went on, I felt a heavy nostalgia when the X-Men movies came along. I found the X-Men films to be a perfect representation of these characters and found myself wanting more. So I found myself collecting all the MARVEL MUTANT comic books again. When our heroes decamped to San Francisco Bay Area I was hooked even more. Finally my favorite mutant super heroes in my own home-town!

I must admit I started getting disenchanted with Marvel Comics because of the whole revamp of the Marvel Universe with the Secret Wars story. I'm not a fan of my favorite characters being killed off, like the Fantastic Family was. In comics, beloved characters come and go, especially when it comes to the X-Men, but I swore to God I was going to disown Marvel and comics in general if all my beloved X-Men characters were to be killed off in a war with the Inhumans. But they weren't. And they are not. THANK YOU for keeping the wonder alive! My inner super-geek salutes you all!!!

Now that they're going to be sticking around, how about giving them a little break here and there? Hasn't it gotten completely tired to keep portraying regular humans as hating on the mutants? You have GOT to admit we ALL love the X-Men! Why else would we be reading and watching?

X-Men forever!
Jerry Ordillas

Thanks, Jerry! We're thrilled to welcome you back into the fold. The strength of the ResurrXion relaunch has shown that Marvel's merry mutants aren't going anywhere. As for giving them a break, however -- when have the X-Men ever gotten one, right? Seriously though, there is a long-term plan for the anti-mutant sentiment that we've been playing with in these early issues and I think you're gonna like the payoff. Thanks for reading!

Hello X-Men Gold Team,

Wow, what a great comic.

Wow, what a great start to a letter.

Over the last few years, the X-Books seemed to have lost their way, but this new start seems to have brought the best of today's artists and writers with the essence of what the X-Men were about in the '80s and '90s.

That's what we like to hear! Thank you!

The team is great, although Kitty needs her Shadowcat code name back.

I've gotten this request a lot. I love the Shadowcat codename and costume/look myself, but if we're going to reintroduce them, there needs to be a story or character reason, in my opinion. I'm searching for one. Time will tell...

With the wealth of mutants that are not currently in any of the planned X-Books, is there any chance we could have an ongoing series that showcases various characters either in solo adventures or teaming up with others?

Marvelous Mark Panicia is better suited to speak to this than I am, but anthologies are generally a tough sell. That said, we're trying to get as many favorites into GOLD as possible. And more will be coming down the pike!

I would love to know what Longshot is up to.

To quote Quentin Tarantino, "Get ready to be happy."

Where did Darwin go after leaving X-Factor?

I think he's still searching for Rahne's son, Tier.

Keep up the good work.

Graham Rose
From Sunny England

Hi!

As a long-time X-Men fan, I must say that I had extremely high hopes for X-MEN GOLD.

Uh oh...

And now, after reading the first issue,

UH OH...

I can safely say that it blew my expectations away!

Whew!

(In case any of you were wondering how a neurotic writer reads your letters...)

I can't wait to see where the new team takes us. With some of my favorite classic heroes (especially Nightcrawler!) returning to their classic looks, it got me wondering: Will we see any big villains returning in upcoming issues?

Yeah, we've got a few biggies coming up. Issues #10 and #11, for example, feature...Well, I don't want to spoil it, but his initials are "Omega Red."

Can't wait for next issue!

Thanks for reading!

Ty

X-MEN

GOLD

X-MEN GOLD #8 IN TWO WEEKS



SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
OFFICEX@MARVEL.COM

JEAN GREY #4
NEXT WEEK



WEAPON X #5
NEXT WEEK



ICEMAN #3
IN THREE WEEKS



